[17th July 1953

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" Sir, in view of the large number of hands going up, may I suggest that this sort of agitation will not explain the results of the elections one way or the other. The Government can only do its utmost to co-ordinate cheapness with secrecy, non-intimidation and correct elections. It is a very difficult matter and the whole of the scheme is only an experiment. Let us try this but when a party has lost heavily they need not worry about it and try to explain it away. It may not always indicate general opinion." (Laughter.)

SRI E. L. RAGHAVA MUDALIAR:—" Sir, is there any scope in the open voting scheme to verify the results announced by the Polling Officer? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" Sir, in the open voting system the counting is done openly. The candidates and their agents will be there and it can be verified."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, may I know in how many places elections have been held and from how many places complaints have been received and what is the nature of the complaints? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" Sir, elections have been held in almost all the places excepting a few. I cannot give their number but they are very few."

SRI K. VENKAIAH:—" Sir, in view of the importance of the question, I request you to allow a half hour debate on this."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We can have a half hour debate this evening."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" Sir, a half hour debate will not do. We want a complete enquiry by a Committee." (Laughter.)

Report of the Labour Officer on the closure of K. V. Kannan Cigar Factory, Cannanore.

* 596 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to place on the table of the House the reports if any of the Labour Officer of Malabar on the closure of K. V. Kannan Cigar Factory, Cannanore and on the conciliation talks conducted by the Labour Officer on the same?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" The concilliation report [a] is placed on the table of the House. Other reports of the Labour Officers are confidential."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—" Sir, is it a fact that the Labour Officers have been instructed to submit two reports, one for public consumption and another for action to be taken by the Government, and, if so, which of the two reports is made public? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 547–548 infra.

17th July 1953]

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"Sir, the report that is placed before the House is the one that is published."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, may I know whether the report that is submitted to the Government is different from the report that is given to the Members here?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—"As I have already said, Sir, it cannot be revealed in public interest."

Strike by Malabar Elementary school teachers.

* 597 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have been given notice or otherwise know that the Malabar Elementary school teachers are intending to strike work consequent upon the Government's intransigent attitude; and

(*b*) what the Government propose to do to avert the strike?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"(*a*) It has been brought to the notice of Government that a section of the aided elementary school teachers of Malabar propose to strike work if their demands are not met.

"(*b*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the reply of the Chief Minister to the Budget debate on grants for Education in the Assembly on the 23rd March 1953. Action is being taken in the light of the assurances given by the Chief Minister."

SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that the Hon. the Minister for Education and the Hon. the Chief Minister requested on the floor of the House the Members of the Legislature to co-operate with the Government to see that the tension was brought down and accordingly the Members of the Legislature belonging to all parties including Members of Parliament convened a conference of the teachers and a Committee of Conciliation was organized and the teachers were requested not to go on a strike till this Committee met and approached the Government to settle the matter, will the Government be pleased to co-operate with this Committee in solving this matter?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO:—"Sir, the Government are contemplating a scheme of direct payment to the teachers and also for the deduction at source of the Provident Fund subscriptions. Details are being worked out."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"And I may also add that the proposals will be sent to the teachers' union for their comments."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—"Sir, is it a fact that the present educational policy of the Government is designed to increase the